

Submitter: Natalie Portis

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

To the Members of the Oregon Legislature,

My name is Natalie Portis, and I am a resident and homeowner of Multnomah County. I am a mother of three children and a dedicated social worker, currently working two jobs to make ends meet. I am writing today to strongly oppose House Bill 2025 and any further proposals to increase taxes on Oregon residents.

Like many hardworking Oregonians, I am struggling under the weight of an already high cost of living. Between rising housing prices, childcare, groceries, and transportation, every dollar I earn is stretched to its limit. Adding yet another tax—regardless of the justification—feels both unsustainable and unfair, especially when our state continues to fall short in providing even the most basic services.

Our public education system is high cost and underperforming. Families are being priced out of housing, while affordable housing projects remain bogged down by inefficiency and red tape. Meanwhile, nothing is being enacted to give relief to middle income earners who can barely afford to buy a home. Behavioral health services, which I work with professionally, are overwhelmed and under-resourced with the effective tools and interventions necessary to meet the need. These are real, visible problems that tax increases have not solved. More money has not translated into better infrastructure or improved living conditions. If anything, our quality of life continues to decline while the tax burden grows heavier.

As a social worker, I witness firsthand the consequences of these systemic failures on individuals and families every day. As a mother, I worry about the future my children will inherit—one where working families are taxed into poverty while fundamental systems remain broken.

At some point, we must acknowledge that simply demanding more from taxpayers is not a solution. It is time to stop taxing working families to death and start asking where the current money is going—and why it's not getting the results Oregonians deserve.

I urge you to oppose HB 2025 and reconsider the direction in which our state is heading. Please stand with working families like mine and say no to yet another tax increase.

Sincerely,

Natalie Portis, LCSW  
Multnomah County, Oregon